

a bond attaching the main body skin portion at said inner edge to the air bag cover skin portion at said outer edge; and

an air bag deployment region disposed within the air bag cover skin portion and adapted to open with the air bag deployment door in response to the force of an inflating air bag.

36. (Twice Amended) A method of forming a skin for an automotive interior panel, wherein the skin comprises a main body skin portion for covering most of an outer surface of the panel and an air bag cover skin portion comprising an outer edge, wherein said main body skin portion includes an opening corresponding to said air bag cover skin portion, said opening comprising an inner edge, wherein said air bag cover skin portion is bordered at the outer edge by the main body skin portion inner edge for covering an air bag deployment portion of the air bag cover panel, the method comprising the steps of:

forming the main body skin portion by casting a first plastic material against a first surface area of a heated shell tool to form a first plastic skin casting to the desired shape of the main body skin portion, and

forming the air bag cover skin portion by casting a second plastic material against a second surface area of the heated shell tool corresponding to said opening in said main body skin portion to form a second plastic skin casting to the desired shape of the air bag cover skin portion, and

forming a bond at said inner edge of the main body skin portion and said outer edge of said air bag cover portion and attaching the main body skin portion and the air bag cover skin portion together while on the heated shell tool.

52. (Thrice Amended) A skin for an automotive panel comprising:  
a main body skin portion adapted to cover at least a portion of the automotive panel and including an opening corresponding to an air bag skin portion of the panel, said main body skin portion further comprising a first plastic material, said opening comprising an inner edge; and